

**LEEK RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1959

January 1961

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LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1959

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. R. HEWLETT

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. HAMMOND

Members:

Councillor J. T. Barks	Councillor J. Marshall
" G. Biddle	" H. Mear
" C. R. Critchlow	" A. Mellor
" J. L. Findlow	" H. Proctor
" H. Ford	" T. Riley
" R. G. Grindon	" Mrs. M. Robson
" W. Hancock	" G. Shufflebotham
" J. Harrison	" Mrs. G. Sigley
" J. W. Heathcote	" P. Smith
" S. E. Hulme	" J. G. Stubbs
" H. James	" A. E. Wood

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector:

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

OFFICES

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 18, Stackwell Street, Leek, Staffs.
(Tel.: Leek 1061)

REPORT

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	... ..	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses	... ..	6,237
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1959	... ..	£121,997
Net product of ld. rate for year ended 31/3/59	... ..	£460/8 8
Estimated Population	... ..	20,120
Number of persons per acre	... ..	.278

INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining but a substantial number of persons are employed in the Five Towns, in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	189	149	338
Illegitimate	5	4	9
	—	—	—
	194	153	347

Birthrate per 1,000 of the population—16.89

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	6	2	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	6	2	8

Rate per 1,000 of the population—

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	100	73	173

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—10.74

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	1	3	4

Death rate per 1,000 live births—14.40

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, and figures for the ten preceding years are given for comparison purposes.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1959	119	98	217	32	35	67	151	133	284
1958	117	100	217	33	34	67	150	134	284
1957	113	98	211	33	34	67	146	132	278
1956	113	96	209	31	33	64	144	129	273
1955	112	90	202	29	31	60	141	121	262
1954	111	88	199	30	32	62	141	120	261
1953	107	87	194	29	31	60	136	118	254
1952	106	80	186	27	30	57	133	110	243
1951	102	77	179	27	29	56	129	106	235
1950	99	74	173	31	30	61	130	104	234
1949	96	71	167	31	30	61	127	101	228

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1959 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:

	1959	1958	1957	1956
Measles	339	58	107	174
Whooping Cough	1	5	80	33
Diphtheria	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	2	6	5	2
Scarlet Fever	26	15	14	12
Erysipelas	—	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	5	6	5	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	7	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	1	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (P.L.) ...	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning	3	4	6	1
Tuberculosis Pulmonary ...	6	8	1	7
Tuberculosis Non.-Pul. ...	1	—	3	3
Total Cases ...	384	104	230	235

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Dysentery	Acute Polymyelitis	Food Poisoning
Alstonefield	1							
Bognall	5			3				1
Bradnop	9			3				
Butterton	2							
Endon and Stanley	44		1	2		1		2
Fawfieldhead	1							
Grindon	3							
Heathylee	4			1				
Heaton								
Hollinsclough								
Harton	2			1		3	1	
Ilam								
Leekfrith	37			1				
Longnor								
Longsdan	4		1		1			
Nartan-in-the-Moors	189	1		9	4	1		
Onecote	12			1	1		1	
Quarnford				2				
Rushton				1				
Sheen	2							
Tittesworth	16				1			
Warslaw and Elkstones	8			2				
Wetton								
Total	339	1	2	26	7	5	2	3
Months of Occurrence								
January	38			3				2
February	109		1	1	1			
Morch	48			1	1	3	1	
April	22			1				
May	40							
June	64			3		2		1
July	15			1	1			
August	3			1				
September		1	1	1	2		1	
October				3	1			
November					1			
December				8				
Total	339	1	2	26	7	5	2	3

Age Incidence of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Acute Polymycolitis		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	7	10								1	1							
1 to 2 years ...	30	36						1										
3 to 4 years ...	31	31					3	1									1	
5—9 years ...	103	77			1		13	6			1	1	1					
10—14 years ...	8	5			1		1	1									1	
15—24 years ...		1							1		1	1		2		1		
25—44 years ...															1	3		
45—64 years ...																		
65 and over ...																		
Total (all ages) ...	179	160	—	1	2	—	17	9	1	1	3	2	1	2	4	1	1	1
TOTAL — Male and Female ...	339		1		2		26		2		5		3		5		2	

Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1959

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	—
Tuberculosis, Other	1	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
Other malignant lymphotic neoplasms	15	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	14
Coronary disease, angina	15	6
Hypertension with heart disease	2	—
Other heart disease	10	10
Other circulatory disease	3	5
Influenza	4	—
Pneumonia	4	3
Bronchitis	4	2
Other disease of respiratory system	3	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	10
Motor Vehicle accidents	2	3
All other accidents	2	3
Suicide	1	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
 Total — all causes	 100	 73

Sanitary inspection of the Area —

Summary of Visits

HOUSING:

(a)	Inspection for defects	63	
(b)	Council House applicants	14	
(c)	Moveable dwellings	14	
(d)	Housing Inspections	123	
(e)	Improvement Grant applicants	234	
(f)	Rent Act	13	
(g)	Council Houses	10	
		----	471

GENERAL:

Inspection of premises for nuisances	55
Food premises	4
Slaughterhouses and knacker's yard	793
Drainage inspections	204
Privy conversions	165
Water supplies general	89
Samples of water taken	47
Shops	45
Refuse and nightsoil collection and disposal	275
Infectious diseases	32
Fumigations and Infestations	26
Rodent control	106
Factories	21
Petroleum stores	13
Swimming Pool	4
Miscellaneous	39
Ice Cream Shops	11
Milk Supply	6

	2406

NOTICES SERVED

1.	Informal Notices	121
	Statutory Notices	—
2.	(a) Number of Nuisances Remedied	95
	(b) Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices	29

WATER SUPPLIES

EASTERN PARISHES WATER SUPPLY

Section "A" Part 1

Nineteen new connections were made during the year making a total of 166 properties connected as follows:—

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ALSTONEFIELD	55*	29	12
ILAM	14	9	7
WETTON	21	16	3
	<hr/> 90	<hr/> 54	<hr/> 22

(* One stand-tap serves 5 properties)

Section "A" Part 2

Commencement of this, the major portion of the Eastern Parishes Water Scheme, was made in June and at the end of the year approximately one-sixth of the contract had been carried out.

HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

Seventeen new connections were made during the year making a total of 190 properties connected as follows:

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ENDON & STANLEY	12	4	—
HORTON	91	36	4
LONGSDON	30	11	2
	<hr/> 133	<hr/> 51	<hr/> 6

LASK EDGE — MAIN EXTENSION

During the year some 500 yards of 3 inch water main was laid from the Biddulph Urban District Council's main at Lask Edge to afford a supply to six smallholdings in that area.

SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Forty-three samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and two for chemical analysis, the results of which are tabulated below:

Source	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Analysis		
	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit
Well	9	3	6	—	—	—
Spring	27	6	21	—	—	—
Borehole	2	2	—	—	—	—
Stream	1	—	1	—	—	—
Public Mains	4	3	1	2	2	—
Total	43	14	29	2	2	—

In addition 2 samples of water were taken from the Bradnop village supply to check for metallic contamination.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work was commenced on the sewerage of the Lane Ends and Chapel Lane areas of Brown Edge and steady progress was maintained throughout the year. Completion of the scheme is anticipated early in 1960.

An extension to the public sewer of some 120 yards was provided at Stoney Lane, Endon, to serve four existing houses which were drained to septic tanks.

Satisfactory progress continued on the extensions to the sewage disposal works at Baddeley Green and Norton Green, and at the end of the year they were virtually completed.

CONVERSION OF PRIVIES TO WATER CLOSETS

The Council makes contributions to property owners desirous of converting their toilets into water closets, the contribution being up to half the cost of the work with a maximum of £20. During the year 26 applications were approved, the Council's total contribution for these being £496 10s.

Further to the above under the Improvement Grant conditions, 18 conversions were carried out as part of the improvements.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse and nightsoil is collected from dwellings in every parish of the district by direct labour and tipping is carried out at the various village tips which are levelled and tidied from time to time.

The new tip at Stockton Brook, being situated within the built-up area, has shortened the haul and resulted in increased efficiency. Sewer extensions and Privy conversions during the year have reduced work on Nightsoil and the completion of the Brown Edge Sewerage Scheme will further reduce the number of premises requiring this service. During the year, 275 visits and inspections in respect of Refuse Collection were made by the Public Health Officers.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER:—

Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Non-Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE 21

Only two factories are of any size.

A small number of outworkers are employed, chiefly by the Silk Manufacturers in Leek and are concerned with the finishing of wearing apparel.

HOUSING

Action taken under the Housing Acts during the year

Demolition and Closing Orders:

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action under the Housing Acts	1
Parts of Buildings closed	Nil
Closing Orders made under Housing Act, 1957	2

Repairs

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit by informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts	29
Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts	
(o) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices under the Housing Acts.	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil

Unfit houses in temporary use

Houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil
--	-----

Purchase of houses by agreement

Houses purchased in Clearance Areas (other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders)	Nil
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New Houses Erected During the Year

(a) By Private Enterprise	145
(b) By Local Authority	Nil

145

Improvement Grants

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Number of Applications received during the year	47	7
Number of Applications in abeyance from previous year	2	—
Number of Improvement Grants made in respect of:—		
(a) Improvements to existing houses	41	7
(b) Conversion of buildings into living accommodation	—	—
Total cost of work involved qualifying for grant	£22,981.18.8	—
Total value of Improvement Grants approved	£10,062. 0.0	£705
Number of Improvement Grant Applications refused or withdrawn	2	—
Number of Applications in abeyance	2	—
Number of Improvement works completed during the year	25	1

Of the 48 grants approved 33 were in respect of owner occupied property and 15 in respect of tenanted property.

RODENT CONTROL

The Public Sewers and Refuse Tips were treated as necessary and the rat population was kept to a minimum.

The Council's Sewage Works were successfully treated on occasions throughout the year and the infestations kept under control.

The Council's free service for domestic premises was increasingly made us of and in appropriate cases as an economy measure, bait suitable for mice clearance was issued to householders.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Forty-nine licences were issued for the bulk storage of 67,850 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Carcases inspected	Cattle	Colves	Sheep & Lombs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	894	3	5829	768	—
Number inspected	894	3	5829	768	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	19	—	—
Corcoses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	120	—	698	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	13.42	—	11.98	—	—
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Corcoses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	126	—	—	13	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	14.09	—	—	1.69	—
Cysticercolis					
Corcoses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—
Carcoses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to:—

- | | |
|---|------------|
| (a) Tuberculosis | 2,129 lbs. |
| (b) Other diseases or conditions | 3,779 lbs. |

5,908 lbs.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

12lbs. Corned Beef; 2½lb. Chicken; 2lb. 6oz. Tomatoes.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

Seventy-seven premises are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Three cases of suspected food poisoning were notified during the year.

MILK SUPPLY

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS AND THE SPECIAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS

(1)	No. of Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
(2)	No. of licences issued to sell—							
					Dealers		Supplementary	
(a)	Tuberculin Tested Milk	...			18		3	
(b)	Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	28		3	
(c)	Pasturised Milk	...	...		15		3	
					<hr/> 61		<hr/> 9	

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Public Health Inspector

